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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8977
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RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
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RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
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INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 1097
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 3458
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 9110
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 1668
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 4887
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SIPDIS

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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - CHINA

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Top stories on Friday morning included a Nikkei report on plans by the Chinese government fund China Investment Corporation to invest in AIG and its affiliate American Life Insurance Company.

¶2. "China Preparing for Construction of Aircraft Carrier" The business-oriented Nikkei wrote from Beijing (11/21): "China appears to be accelerating its preparations for the construction of an aircraft carrier. It seems to have already begun the initial process of building a conventional carrier and training carrier-borne pilots. Although there was a cautious view about the building of such a ship in view of cost-effectiveness, Beijing apparently decided to move forward with the aim of enhancing its operational ability on the high seas and securing marine resources. This move could make China's neighbors nervous, as its deployment of an aircraft carrier could have a major impact on security in East Asia."

SCHIEFFER